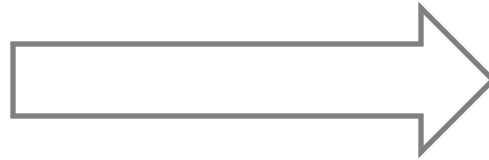


# Education Allowances

Leah Wallace  
Family Liaison Office



Incomplete  
information on  
allowances




Employee  
debt  
\$ \$ \$



Always refer specific cases to the Allowances  
Office, [AllowancesO@state.gov](mailto:AllowancesO@state.gov) .

# FAQs Office of Allowances

Address  http://aoprals.state.gov/content.asp?content\_id=108&menu\_id=75



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7. [Transitional Separate Maintenance Allowance](#) (Also see DSSR Chapter 260)
8. [Education Allowance](#) (Also see DSSR Chapter 270)
9. [Education Supplementary Instruction](#) (Also see DSSR Chapter 276.9)
10. [Education Home Study and Private Instruction](#) (Also see DSSR Chapter 277.3)
11. [Educational Travel](#) (includes Q&As on combining Educational Travel & R&R) (Also see DSSR Chapter 280 and 3 FAM 3720)
12. [Representation Allowances](#) (Also see DSSR Chapter 300)
13. [Official Residence Expense \(ORE\) Allowance](#) (Also see DSSR Chapter 400 and general guidance contained in 03 State 317659).
14. [Post Hardship Differential](#) (Also see DSSR Chapter 500)
15. [Allowances in Footnote 'n' Countries](#) (Also see DSSR Chapter 500)
16. [Evacuation Payments](#) (Also see DSSR Chapter 600)
17. [Danger Pay](#) (Also see DSSR Chapter 650)
18. [Service Need Differential \(Difficult to Staff Incentive\)](#) (Also see DSSR Chapter 1000)
19. [Living Quarters Allowance](#) (Also see DSSR Chapter 130)
20. [Consumable Shipments](#) (Also see 14 FAM 613.7)

# Allowances

U.S.

vs.

Overseas



# Allowance Overview

- US public education
- Grades K-12
- Paid at post

“Employees have complete freedom of choice to send their child to any school, whether at post or away...”



“... however, if the school the child attends is more expensive than the maximum allowance, the parent is responsible for the extra expenses incurred.”



# Allowance Options

```
graph TD; A[Allowance Options] --> B[At Post Education]; A --> C[Special Needs]; A --> D[Home - School]; A --> E[Boarding Schools]; A --> F[Education Travel]; B -- OR --> C; C -- OR --> D; D -- OR --> E; E -- OR --> F; B --> G[Supplemental Instruction]; C --> G;
```

**At Post  
Education**

**OR**

**Special  
Needs**

**OR**

**Home -  
School**

**OR**

**Boarding  
Schools**

**OR**

**Education  
Travel**

**Supplemental  
Instruction**



# At-Post Allowance

- Based on “Base School”
- Use up to ceiling for other options
- Expenses covered
- Expenses not covered

# Special Needs Education Allowance (SNEA)

- Based on IDEA – from birth up to age 21
- At post \$57,300
- Away from post \$77,400
- Employee Consultation Service (ECS) must authorize and re-approve every year

# Supplemental Instructional Allowance

- With at-post Education Allowance and SNEA only
- Up to \$4,100 per year (11/ 2010)
- Keep child at grade level
- Gifted & Talented; Special Needs
- U.S. History

# Home Study

- In lieu of at-post
- Approved curriculum
- \$5,700 for K-8, \$7,700 for 9-12
- \$57,300 for Special Needs, if authorized

# Away-from-Post

- School in the US or abroad – boarding or other
- Cannot receive for US school if parent lives in US
- Includes travel
- UAB
- Every post has an away from post allowance, but rate is not always higher



## YOUTH & EDUCATION

ASSISTANCE  
& DEVELOPMENT

## Quarterly Report

Printer Friendly 

**Rates Effective: 05/06/2012**

Go

[illegible]

[illegible]

# Educational Travel

- 1 round trip per year for dependent children enrolled full-time in post-secondary school up to age 21. *(After age 21, a child can no longer be added to your orders, but if he/she has traveled to post on your orders before the 22<sup>nd</sup> birthday, he/she can continue to receive the educational travel benefit until turning 23).*
- See Educational Travel FAQs - [http://aoprals.state.gov/content.asp?content\\_id=179&menu\\_id=81](http://aoprals.state.gov/content.asp?content_id=179&menu_id=81)
- Cannot be combined with any other Education Allowance



# Education FAQs

<http://www.state.gov/m/dghr/flo/c51517.htm#a18>



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Home » Under Secretary for Management » Bureau of Human Resources » Family Liaison Office (FLO) » Education and Youth  
» Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

## Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

The FLO Education and Youth Team has assembled Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) to share with families at post. These FAQs include information on boarding schools, transition to Washington, allowances, special needs, and more. We encourage families to utilize the FAQs for more information on education related questions.

### Overseas Schools:

1. Q: Where can I find information on overseas schools?
2. Q: What are my options at post if the schools are deemed 'inadequate' or lack accreditation?
3. Q: I'm a parent and I've run into an issue with the administration at our school. With whom can I consult about the approach I should take?
4. Q: Aren't the overseas schools required to admit my child into their school?

### Community:

5. Q: A situation came up regarding bullying. Are there any suggestions that you can provide?
6. Q: Are there any solutions/suggestions you can provide for dealing with bus misbehavior issues?
7. Q: What can be done about the limited extracurricular activities after school at post?

### Special Needs:

Stay Connected with State.gov



VIDEO



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United States Department of State

# FLO: EDUCATION & YOUTH



## Private and Public Schools in the Washington DC Area

We are often asked, what is the best school in Washington? There is no standard answer to that question. Foreign Service families enroll their children in public and private schools. The majority of our families choose public school when moving to Washington; however, there are a variety of excellent private schools in the DC area. Depending on your child's strengths and preferences, one school may be better than another.

The Education and Youth Team can help you get started on researching resources and planning. Admission to some of the prestigious schools in the area is very competitive. Create a back-up plan in case your child is not admitted to the school of his/her choice.

When posted to the U.S., there is no Education Allowance. Therefore, if you choose to send your child to private school while you are posted in the U.S., you will be responsible for the costs.



Did you know that **19%** of FS families send their children to a private school and **81%** of FS families send their children to public school when they move to Washington.\*

There are many excellent public schools in the greater Washington metropolitan area. You may begin researching area public schools by visiting our website.

FLO's Education and Youth Team meets with administrators from different school districts. We liaise with local public schools to familiarize the administration with our families and the Foreign Service lifestyle. We maintain and collect resources from the public schools and can provide you with guidance on transitioning back into the local school system. As with all other educational decisions, you will need to take time, well in advance of your move, to research schools and find the right fit for your child.

If you have any questions on U.S. transition and re-entry for your children, please contact us at [FLOAskEducation@state.gov](mailto:FLOAskEducation@state.gov).



## What We Do

Families who raise their children in the Foreign Service manage frequent moves, changing cultures, and multiple transitions from one school to another.

The Family Liaison Office (FLO) provides guidance and referrals to assist families in making informed decisions about their children's education. We serve all families under Chief of Mission authority.

We provide guidance and resources for:

- Boarding Schools
- Washington Area Private and Public Schools
- Special Needs
- Homeschooling
- College Preparedness

We also provide information and referrals on child care, gifted and talented resources, allowances, adult education, teaching overseas, summer programs, and transition and re-entry planning.

The Education and Youth Team partners with a number of offices in the Department including, Allowances, Office of Overseas Schools, and Employee Consultation Services.



Did you know that **58%** of FS families transition back to Washington at least twice during their careers?\*

## Boarding Schools

Why choose boarding school? Families sometimes choose boarding school because there are not satisfactory options at post or they want to provide their children with educational continuity.

Visit the FLO website and begin your search by becoming familiar with the different types of schools available. We can help you with questions regarding planning, special needs, travel, allowances, and applications. The Education and Youth Team does not complete boarding school placements.

Please remember, there is not an Away-from-Post Education Allowance at every post or when posted to the U.S.



## Special Needs Education

The quality of special needs programs overseas varies greatly from school to school, and even from year to year. Finding the appropriate resources may be challenging. Here are some steps that can help:

- 1 Regardless of your agency affiliation, contact Employee Consultation Services (ECS). The Special Needs Education Allowance (SNEA), from the U.S. Department of State, must be approved by ECS, [MEDECS@state.gov](mailto:MEDECS@state.gov).
- 2 Once you have received approval for SNEA, consult with your ECS social worker about resources, the medical clearance process, and appropriate posts for your child. If you are considering a special needs boarding school, ask your social worker if he/she has recommendations.
- 3 If you have questions about obtaining the Special Needs Education Allowance, consult FLO or the Office of Allowances, [Allowances@state.gov](mailto:Allowances@state.gov).
- 4 Contact the at-post school directly if you have questions about its programs. The Office of Overseas Schools has Regional Education Officers who are able to assist you with special needs questions. Email: [OverseasSchools@state.gov](mailto:OverseasSchools@state.gov).



## Home Schooling and College Preparedness

Home schooling programs are expanding and easily accessible online. Some Foreign Service families choose to home school their children. This provides educational continuity when making frequent moves.

FLO can help you with researching school programs, information on allowances, and weighing the options of whether home schooling would be right for you and your child. There is no Home School Education Allowance when posted to the U.S.



**College Tip:** All families interested in financial aid should submit a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) early! Check their website for deadlines—[www.fafsa.org](http://www.fafsa.org).



Deciding on the right college for your child takes time and research. Please visit our website for information on the college search and application process, as well as scholarship resources. FLO's Education and Youth Team is also able to answer questions on Educational Travel Allowance for your child in college.

## Contact Us



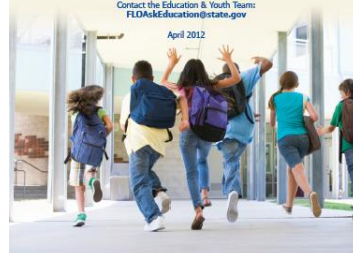
The Family Liaison Office  
Harry S. Truman Building, Room 1239  
Department of State  
Washington, DC 20520

Tel: (202) 647-1076 or (800) 440-0397  
Fax: (202) 647-1670

[www.state.gov/m/dgpr/flo](http://www.state.gov/m/dgpr/flo)  
Click on Education and Youth

Contact the Education & Youth Team:  
[FLOAskEducation@state.gov](mailto:FLOAskEducation@state.gov)

April 2012



\* Sources for all statistics cited in this publication are from "Education Survey," Foreign Service Journal, 2011.

# Contact FLO

Room 1248, HST

(202) 647-1076

FLOAskEducation@state.gov

<http://www.state.gov/m/dghr/flo/>

